

Lightweight Forward Entry Device (LFED)/Forward Entry Device (FED)



MISSION

Compose, edit, transmit, receive, and display alphanumeric and graphic messages for transmission over standard military radios; enable users to plan, control, and execute fire support operations at maneuver platoon, company battalion, and brigade levels.

DESCRIPTION AND SPECIFICATIONS

The Lightweight Forward Entry Device (LFED)/Forward Entry Device (FED) is a programmable input/output device that is an integral part of the digitized system architecture. Using Forward Observer System (FOS) software, it provides the vital sensor-to-shooter link required for effective fires. Its most critical mission is to "call for fires." The LFED/FED also provides critical situational awareness for forward deployed field artillery units. It provides the initial digital entry device required for forward observers and combat observation lasing teams.

The LFED/FED program provides the hardware platform to support Department of Defense-mandated interoperability/Army digitization requirements. These include implementation of Military Standard-188-220 protocol and variable message format to support the new functional user requirements under the next software release, and command, control, communications, computers and intelligence (C4I) technical architecture requirements. It is used in the heavy divisions by the forward observer, field artillery battery commanders, and fire support team personnel.

FOREIGN COUNTERPART

United Kingdom: Data Entry Device.

FOREIGN MILITARY SALES

Portugal, Taiwan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia.

PROGRAM STATUS

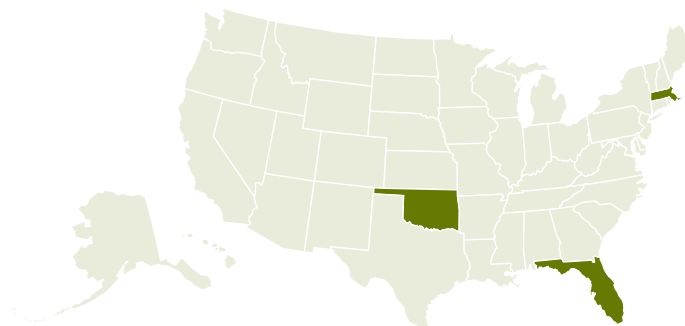
- 2QFY99 First unit equipped (FUE) with forward observer command and control (FOCC); Final qualification test (FQT), FOS.
- 4QFY99 Materiel release, FOS; FUE, FOS.
- FY00 First Digitized Division fielding, FOS.
- 1QFY00 10th Mountain division field test of voice recognition.
- 4QFY00 Participation in Joint Contingency Forces.
- 1QFY01 FQT, Package 12.

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES

- 2QFY01 Materiel release, Package 12; Digital capstone exercise (DCX-1).
- 1QFY02 DCX-2; FQT, fire support version 7; Materiel release, fire support version 7.

PRIME CONTRACTORS

Hardware Common Hardware Systems (CHS) II Ruggedized Handheld Computer (RHC) and CHS: General Dynamics (Taunton, MA); Talla-Tech (Tallahassee, FL)
Software: TELOS (Lawton, OK)



* See appendix for list of subcontractors

